

## Visit to Arlington revives memories of fallen

By Alexandra Williams

284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Attending a memorial service for his grandfather at Arlington National Cemetery brought Sgt. Mark B. Hayward face to face with the most dramatic moments in his military career.

Hayward, of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, was at the resting place of the nation's heroes to attend a memorial for his grandfather, retired Air Force Maj. James Madison Stribling.

"After the ceremony I was walking around looking at the grave markers when I suddenly saw the gravestone of Command Sgt. Maj. Eric Cooke," Hayward said. The sight produced a flashback to the time he was deployed to Iraq and experienced the loss of comrades.

"It's always shocking hearing of Soldiers being injured and killed during attacks, but it really shakes you up when someone you personally knew got killed," he said.

Cooke was command sergeant major of the 1st Armored Division's 1st Brigade during the deployment to Iraq. He was killed Dec. 24, 2003, north of Baghdad when his vehicle struck an explosive device.

"I didn't know him closely, but I met him a few times. He was always polite and asked how I was doing. You could tell that he honestly cared about the Soldiers, and he always made sure that we had what we needed to get the job done," Hayward said.

"The last time I saw him was Dec. 19 when we had our NCO Christmas party and dinner in Baghdad. He shook everybody's hand and said a few words wishing us Merry Christmas. The next time I heard of him was Christmas morning during our formation. Our battalion commander told us that the sergeant major was killed the night before. We were shocked, and most of us could not believe it."

Cooke was respected and very well liked among the brigade's Soldiers, said Hayward.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Cooke was always proud to shake the hands of the newest and youngest private. He was not above that, and he never prejudged people," said Hayward.

"Our company lost two Soldiers the night of May 30: 1st Lt. Kenneth M. Ballard was killed in a firefight with local insurgents in Najaf, and Pfc. Nicholas Zimmer died when his vehicle came under attack by rocket propelled grenades in Kufa. It was a sad day for us, and the news of their deaths was a shock for me. You cannot believe it that someone you just spoke to earlier is no longer going to be there."

The saying that only the good die young rings true for Hayward, he said. He spends a lot of time thinking about his fallen comrades.

"I often ask myself why did it have to happen to those good guys? I don't really talk to other Soldiers in my battalion about them because we have many new people, and half of the people I deployed with have either gotten out of the Army or returned to the States.

"I often think about my fallen comrades. They were great guys. I remember standing in chow line with Pfc. Zimmer, exchanging jokes as if it were yesterday. Lt. Ballard always had a friendly smile and a friendly word for everybody. He didn't think he was better than anybody else. He gave enlisted the same respect he would have given a general. Even today he is still present. His photo is in the company chain of command board and I see it all the time," said Hayward.

Finding the graves of Cooke and Ballard at Arlington meant a lot to him, Hayward said.

"My grandfather served in the Air Force and my father, Capt. John Kent Hayward, died in Vietnam while serving his

**"I often ask myself why did it have to happen to those good guys."**



Photo courtesy of Sgt. Mark B. Hayward  
Sgt. Mark B. Hayward poses at the gravesite of the late Command Sgt. Major Eric Cooke at the Arlington Cemetery. The visit revived memories of his fallen comrades, Hayward said.

country. I know how the families feel. The least I can do is pay my respect to my fallen comrades whenever I have a chance to.

"Pfc. Zimmer is buried in his hometown so I couldn't visit his gravesite, but I am still thinking about him anyway. To me it was an honor to pay my tribute to those great men. I was fortunate to make it back home, but they made the ultimate sacrifice," he said.

## Headstart class aids in transition to Germany

### Longtime instructor helps Soldiers, spouses settle in

By Alexandra Williams

284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Claudia Conrad is a cultural gatekeeper and guide.

Working as a Headstart instructor for Central Texas College in the Giessen Education Center, Conrad and two colleagues are often the first link for newcomers to Germany, introducing new Soldiers in the 284th Base Support Battalion to German traditions, words and phrases.

Her career as an instructor began 16 years ago as an emergency hire in Friedberg. At the time Conrad was studying nutritional science at Giessen University and working at Donutland on the Giessen Depot, said the native of Oberhausen.

"They needed instructors and I was asked if I was interested in teaching. I had to attend a two-week class, learning how to teach. After that I was on my own," she said.

Since the beginning Conrad has tried to give her students more than a quick summary and a few phrases to get around, she said.



Photo by Alexandra Williams

Headstart instructor Claudia Conrad teaches new Soldiers in the 284th Base Support Battalion German traditions, words and phrases. To assist new spouses with the start in Germany the program is now also offered to them.

Whenever time and finances allow she has traveled to historic locations and castles, so when she talks to Soldiers she can share knowledge based on her own experiences.

"I love this job," said Conrad. "It's never

the same. In 16 years of teaching every class has been different. It always depends on the mixture of Soldiers. Sometimes you have a class with only junior enlisted; the next time you have more NCOs and officers. It's the

mixture of age, experience and personalities that make every class a unique experience."

Meeting people from all walks of life is the greatest benefit of being an instructor, she said.

"You learn new words, what's new in the United States, but I also learn so much about the values people have. It's never boring and always interesting. In my classes I meet some of the nicest Soldiers, some of the friendliest Soldiers and some of the funniest Soldiers.

"I'll never forget this one class I instructed. Whenever they had a chance these Soldiers played a trick on me. When I left the office they did something like turning around the desk or whatever. One day after class I came to the parking lot and found my car standing sideways in the parking space. When I saw it my mouth just dropped open and I was speechless. And to make me speechless is hard to do. Anyway, after they had a good laugh on me they lifted up the car and turned it back around again.

"One Soldier wrote a poem for me thanking me for the class and another told me that if his high school teacher had been as good at teaching as I was he would still be in school. That was the greatest compliment one could give me," she said.

Conrad never had a bad experience in  
**See Headstart class on page 17**



# 284th BSB – Friedberg, Giessen

## Headstart class . . . . .

*Continued from page 16*

class, she said

“The only bad experiences I have are when I hear that somebody who attended my class has died — either by natural causes, an accident or in combat,” Conrad said.

Conrad has seen the Army change during her career, but there is one development in particular that she welcomes the most. While the Headstart program used to be offered only to Soldiers, the class is now open to spouses too.

### Classes also offered to spouses

“I’d like to encourage more spouses to come to the Headstart classes. Especially now with the upcoming field problems it would be essential for spouses to attend the class. It would help them to get settled. After all they are the ones who are dealing more with the locals. The class is open not only to newcomers — even those who’ve been here for a while may sign up,” Conrad said.

Headstart classes take place Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Emphasis on the first day is on the alphabet, numbers, greetings and basic words and phrases. Day two covers the telephone sys-

tems, explaining civilian, military and cell phones, the Internet, the local currency, the Euro, how to read prices and negotiate restaurants.

The third day focuses on public transportation, explaining how to read bus and train schedules, and how to ask for tickets. Day four covers shopping in Germany including Value Added Tax forms, clothing sizes and electronics.

Conrad also goes over Army thrift shops and Morale, Welfare and Recreation shops.

Field trips to apply the lessons learned always take place on the last day of Headstart. Participants tour the local Wal-Mart and the train station, have lunch at a German restaurant and explore downtown Giessen.

“Throughout the week students also get geographical details about the local area, Germany and Europe. Of course I will also answer all questions my students may have,” said Conrad.

### Child care may be arranged through ACS

Interested spouses can call the Giessen Education Center at mil 343-8103. Since classes last eight hours, day care can be arranged through Army Community Service.

## Activities and more

### Make friends with Kontakt

New in Giessen? Interested in learning German? Would you like to make some German friends, learn about the culture and go on fun trips? Kontakt, the German-American friendship club, is open to military and civilian participants of all ages. Meetings are held every Wednesday at 8 p.m.

### ACAP programs

The Army Career and Alumni Program in Giessen hosts **mandatory pre-separation briefings** on request. Briefings provide an overview of benefits and entitlements. Call mil 343-9332 for an appointment. A **Veterans Affairs benefits briefing** will take place Jan. 21 from 9 a.m. to noon. An **Advanced Interviewing** class will take place Jan. 25; registration is required. A **resume review class** takes place Jan. 28. All classes take place at the Giessen Education Center. For details call Claire Sowinski at mil 343-9332. ACAP will host a **job assistance workshop** Feb. 15-16. The workshop is a

prerequisite for further job search assistance.

### Mentors sought in Butzbach

Butzbach Elementary School seeks mentors for about 40 students. Approximately 25 stay after school every Wednesday and Thursday for an hour to do their homework and could benefit from a mentor’s help. Other mentoring opportunities exist as well. Attend the Mentor Orientation at the school Feb. 7 at 9 a.m. to learn more. Call Heather Majorwitz at civ (06033) 74520 or email her at [heather.majorwitz@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:heather.majorwitz@eu.dodea.edu) for information.

### Line dance group meeting

The German country and western line dance group, the Rattlesnakes, meets every Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the Ossenheimer Treff in Friedberg-Ossenheim. All are welcome to attend the weekly get-together. Members speak English. For information call Uschi Schmitt at civ (06109) 23139 or Nany Schöps at civ (06031) 772 728.

# 284th BSB – Friedberg, Giessen

## Community spotlight

### Wild West Night

The Hearts and Hands Community Club will host its annual Wild West Night Feb. 5 from 5:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. This fundraising event features a silent auction, gambling, a jail and much more. Proceeds will go back to the community by supporting scholarships and organizations. Child care will be provided by the Giessen and Friedberg Child Development Centers from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. for all Child and Youth Services registered children. Registration and payment deadline is Jan. 31. Call mil 343-8216/7028 for details.

### Army One Source

The Army One Source free counseling telephone line is available 24 hours a day at civ (0800) 4648 1077. The toll-free service puts callers directly in touch with professional counselors for help and referrals.

### Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help with Wild West Night Feb. 5 in Friedberg. Individuals to help plan, set up and take down the jail and other featured events are needed. Call Jana Mansoor at mil 324-3700 or Christina Daily at Friedberg ACS, mil 324-3789, to volunteer.

### Child Find screening

Butzbach Elementary School will host a Child Find screening Jan. 24 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for all families in Giessen, Butzbach, Bad Nauheim and Friedberg. Parents who have concerns about their preschool (age 3-5) children's cognitive, social, emotional, physical or speech development are invited to attend. Call civ (06033) 74520 to arrange an appointment.

### Newborn care

The New Parent Education and Support Program hosts a newborn care class Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Butzbach Outreach Center in Building 6543. Instructors use videos and lecture to help participants learn to care for newborns. To register call Giessen Army Community Service at civ (0641) 402-7618.

### On-site registration

The CLEOS office will host on-site registration from 9 a.m. to noon at the Child Development Center in Butzbach Feb. 1, at the Bad Nauheim CDC Feb. 2 and at the CDC in Friedberg Feb. 3. A Parent's Night Out will be hosted Feb. 11 at the Butzbach CDC. For information call CLEOS at civ (0641) 402-8216.

### Donations sought

The Wild West General Store seeks donations of "almost new" items to sell at the General Store during this year's Wild West Night. Bring that second toaster or those items you were going to put in a yard sale. If it is clean and still works, bring it in. Donations are accepted until Feb. 4 at drop-off points in each community. For details call Kathy Monge at mil 343-7618.

### Employment readiness

The 284th BSB Army Community Service employment readiness program provides assistance to community members seeking employment. Services include federal resume classes, interviewing skills help, computer assistance and tools to aid in a job search. Employment readiness services are offered Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Friedberg and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Giessen. Federal resume classes are held Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon in Giessen and every first Wednesday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon in Friedberg. Call ACS in Friedberg at mil 324-3465 or ACS in Giessen at mil 343-7618.

### Outdoor Rec ski trips

Giessen Outdoor Recreation features a ski trip to the **Broken Mountain** Jan. 22. Cost is \$59. An overnight ski trip to **Garmisch** takes place Jan. 29-30. The cost is \$139 for adults, \$79 for children age 4-13 and \$49 for children up to age 3. Ski or snowboard equipment and snowboard instructions are provided. For information call mil 343-8202.

### Personal trainer certification

Giessen's Miller Hall Fitness Center hosts an Aerobics and Fitness Association of America personal trainer certification course Feb. 18-20 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$321.75 including the certificate or \$183.75 for CEU credits only. Registration deadline is Jan. 21. For more information call mil 343-7201/8206.

### Bingo night

The Hearts and Hands Community Club hosts bingo night every third Friday of the month at 7 p.m. at Butzbach Elementary School. Prizes include Polish pottery and crystal. Snacks are available. This event is for members only, but you can sign

up at the event.

### Help an animal

Like to have a pet, but don't have enough time to take care for one full time? The



Giessen Animal Shelter welcomes individuals and families who would like to help care

for the animals in their facility. Go to the "Katzenhaus" (cat house) and play with the cats or walk a dog on the weekends. Leashes are available. Food donations are always appreciated. The Tierheim is open Saturday and Sunday from 3-6 p.m. and Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 3-5 p.m.

### Volunteers sought

The 284th BSB seeks volunteers to help make the community the best it can be. Many organizations exist thanks to the work of volunteers. Contact the 284th BSB Army Volunteer Corps coordinator, Kelly Kreis, at mil 324-3465, civ (06031) 81-3465 or email her at [kreisk@104asg.mwr.army.mil](mailto:kreisk@104asg.mwr.army.mil) to see what you can do for your com-

munity. Agencies that need volunteers include the Parent Teacher Student Association, the Boy and Girl Scouts, community mail rooms, libraries, arts and crafts centers, Family Readiness Groups, thrift shops, the Hearts and Hands Community Club, the Red Cross, the medical and dental clinics, the Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program, the tax centers, Army Family Team Building and the Army Family Action Plan.

### Donations for tsunami survivors

Anyone who would like to donate cash to support the relief efforts in South Asia should contact the Red Cross in Giessen. As of now only cash donations can be accepted — do not bring clothes or food. Receipts for donated funds will be provided. Call the Red Cross at mil 343-7786 for details.

### AFAP issues sought

Community members who have issues for this year's Army Family Plan Action conference, to be held Feb. 15 and 16 at the Woodland Club in Giessen, must turn them in before the conference. Suggestion forms can be dropped off at Army Community Service offices, post

exchanges, shoppettes and commissaries throughout the 284th Base Support Battalion.

### FCC providers sought

Do you enjoy working with children? Want to make money while working at home? Family Child Care providers are sought for all communities in the 284th Base Support Battalion. For information call mil 343-7626 or civ (0641) 402-7626.

### Bulk trash pickup

The next bulk trash pickup date for all housing areas will be Feb. 4 and includes collection of Christmas trees. Don't place bulk items outside until the evening before the scheduled pickup date. For more information call Monika Nelson at mil 343-7161.

### Recycle cleaning products

Both Self-Help Stores in Giessen and Friedberg accept partially used household cleaning products and reissue them free to other housing residents. When you move, bring your cleaners to the Self-Help Store rather than throwing them in the garbage (it's illegal and bad for the environment).

# 284th BSB – Friedberg, Giessen

## ACS classes

### ACS Friedberg update

Friedberg Army Community Service will host **Family Readiness Group/family support leader training** Jan. 20-21 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. All new leaders should contact Lynne Perillo at mil 324-3465. A **Soup's On luncheon** takes place Jan. 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Parent and Me Playtime** is a great opportunity for children to socialize with others. For information on the programs offered in Friedberg call mil 324-3465.

### Children's movie day

Army Community Service will host a children's movie day every second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 10-11:30 a.m. in Building 3 on the Giessen Depot. The program includes a short movie, snack and fun crafts designed for children under age 5. To register call mil 343-7618.

### Coupon socials

Army Community Service centers host coupon socials every third Thursday of the month from 1-4 p.m. in Giessen and Friedberg, and every fourth Friday from 1-4 p.m. in Bad Nauheim and Butzbach. Save money on grocery bills while meeting neighbors and friends for conversation and light refreshments. A gift basket will be awarded to the shopper with the greatest coupon savings. For details call the ACS in Giessen at mil 343-7618, in Friedberg at mil 324-3465, in Bad Nauheim at civ (06033) 81-3566 or in Butzbach at civ (06033) 925 329.

### Computer classes

Computer Basics classes are held every Tuesday from 2-4:30 p.m. at Giessen ACS. Advance sign up is required to save a space. Call mil 343-7618.

### Stress, anger management

Stress and Anger management classes are held in the Friedberg and Giessen ACS as well as at the Butzbach and Bad Nauheim Outreach centers. Call mil 343-7618 or 324-3465 for details.

## NCO embodies gift of giving

By Alexandra Williams

284th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

1st Sgt. Jeff Payne of Service Battery, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery, is proof that being a warfighter does not exclude Soldiers from being good Samaritans at the same time. Payne rendered help to two Germans during a traffic accident that took place in the early evening of Dec. 22 near Giessen, and his help made those involved feel safer.

The incident happened approximately 300 meters outside of Rödgen heading toward Buseck.

### Accident on icy road

A tractor coming from Buseck was slowly driving on the icy road when a vehicle coming from Rödgen suddenly slid into the tractor which caused the trailer on the tractor to turn over and slide down an incline.

"It happened very quickly, but luckily the incident did not cause any more crashes," said Gabriele Felbinger, an eyewitness of the accident.

Felbinger's friend, Andreas Bloes, rendered help by securing one side of the street when Payne arrived at the scene.

"As I was driving towards Buseck I noticed that cars were turning on the streets driving back. I was wondering what had happened and then I saw the accident," Payne said.

He pulled over and immediately helped securing the scene of the accident by putting out the warning triangle and checking if anyone needed medical assistance.

### The action made others feel safe

"I was impressed with the fact that he helped without complaining or getting annoyed. Some other motorists saw there was an accident and just turned around while others were complaining that they had no time to waste. Without hesitation he rendered help. He also checked on a leak of the turned over car. After all we did not know if it was gasoline or another flammable liquid. His actions made us feel safe," Felbinger said.

"I was just helping out until the police arrived at the scene. I am a volunteer fireman in the State of Washington so I just followed an instinct I guess," said Payne.

"Luckily the accident was not a dramatic emergency, but



Photo by Alexandra Williams

The help 1st Sgt. Jeff Payne rendered during a traffic accident near Giessen made those involved feel safer.

he did not know that when he first arrived, and I think his actions stand out because in times like these many just mind their own business and don't care too much about others," said Felbinger.

"He is a foreigner in Germany so he could have easily said that he does not speak the language or he could have turned around leaving like others did. Another point is that media often lets one forget that Soldiers are also human beings. 1st Sgt. Payne showed that there is more to being a Soldier than to run around with a gun — a picture that is unfortunately often portrayed in the media. That evening he was like Santa's helper to us, and he gladly gave his time to help others," Felbinger said.

## Tax centers open in Giessen, Friedberg

By Alexandra Williams  
284th Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office

The tax centers in Giessen and Friedberg will open Jan. 30 to provide assistance with tax questions and electronic filing.

The service is open to all active duty, reserve, retired military personnel, federal government employees and their dependants.

Fully trained staff and volunteers are available to assist cus-

tomers.

This tax season involves a few changes. Hard copies of the W-2 form will no longer be provided to Soldiers by the 39th Finance Detachment office. In order to file their taxes Soldiers need to obtain a copy of the form by accessing their myPay account through Army Knowledge Online.

Soldiers who have been deployed can expect a substantial return this year. Legal officials recom-

mend to getting the W-2 form and filing tax returns as soon as possible.

When filing your taxes through one of the military tax centers the following documents are needed:

✍ The W-2 form and 1099 forms

✍ Social Security numbers for sponsor, spouse and children

✍ Copy of last year's tax return

✍ Bank card or blank checks with routing numbers and account information

✍ Any documents related to investment property, interest bearing loan accounts and any other documents related to income in or outside the United States.

The spouse must be present when a couple plans on filing their returns together. Couples not filing jointly must bring a power of attorney from the absent spouse. Power of attorney can be obtained from the local legal assistance offices in Giessen and Friedberg.

The tax center in Giessen is located in Building 7 on the Giessen Depot, and the center in Friedberg is located in Building 3635 on Ray Barracks.



✍ ID card

# 414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau

## Community notes . . . Community notes

### International Club wins top honors

Kudos to Hanau's International Club and manager Mike Siple. The club was selected as Army-wide winner of the Most Im-



Mark Siple

proved Award during judging of the 2004 James A. Carroll Jr. Excellence in Club Management Awards Dec. 7-8. "The efforts of Mr. Siple and his team have resulted in an amazing turnaround," said John Bomberger, MWR business manager for the 104th Area Support Group. "Improvements occurred despite the tremendous drop in customer base caused by the deployment. The club has eliminated unpopular and unprofitable operations, improved customer service and provided high quality, consistent catering services." The club posted net income before depreciation of almost \$30,000 in fiscal year 2004 as opposed to a loss of over \$160,000 in the preceding year. An award will be formally presented at the International Military Community Executives Association Conference to be held in conjunction with the National Restaurant Association trade show in Chicago, Ill., in May.

### American Star Restaurant opens

The American Star Restaurant in the Community Activity Center on Fliegerhorst Kaserne is open for lunch Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., for dinner from 5-9:30 p.m. and for snacks Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Expert catering is available for unit and private functions. A Grand Opening celebration Jan. 28 at 4:30 p.m. will feature a live AFN radio broadcast and local heroes Q2 will perform. Brunch is featured every first Sunday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. starting Feb. 6. A Sweethearts Dinner will be held Feb. 14 from 5-10 p.m. Make reservations by Feb. 11 at mil 322-7206/7267 or civ (06183) 51-7206/7267.

### Paintball in Grossauheim

The 414th Base Support Battalion Outdoor Recreation Division will open Splat Xtreme Indoor Paintball in Building 659 on Grossauheim Kaserne on Feb. 4 at 5 p.m. Operating hours will be Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and

Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Units may reserve the facility Thursdays.

### Mardi Gras at Kids Korner Feb. 4

The Kids Korner and Youth Services will hold a Mardi Gras party for teens Feb. 4 from 8-12 p.m. featuring a DJ. Admission is \$3 for youths from sixth- through 12th-grade. Come in a costume.

### Ursano Scholarship

Applications for the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Fund are available at Army Emergency Relief, Building 9 on Pioneer Kaserne, or on the web at [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org). The deadline for applications is March 1. Call mil 322-8097 or civ (06181) 88-8097 for details.

### Winter Wonderland in Büdingen

Büdingen Army Community Service will host a Winter Wonderland Jan. 21 at 3:30 p.m. in Building 2207 on Armstrong Kaserne featuring indoor games with a winter theme. Call mil 321-4786, civ (06042) 80786 or send email to [keylah.bonebrake@104asg.mwr.army.mil](mailto:keylah.bonebrake@104asg.mwr.army.mil) for details.

### Büdingen Black History Month fete

Celebrate Black History Month Feb. 4 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Büdingen Family Outreach Center, Building 2207 on Armstrong Barracks. Enjoy traditional decorations, food and music. Everything is free of charge and everyone is welcome. Call Keylah Bonebrake at mil 321-4786 or civ (06042) 80786 for details or to contribute dishes.

### Ed Center notes

All Soldiers are now eligible to use the **eArmyU education resource**, either through the e-course option or the laptop option. Call an education counselor at mil 322-9600 for information. **Pell Grant eligibility** and awards have been reduced. Go to [http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student\\_guide/2004\\_2005/english/types.htm](http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student_guide/2004_2005/english/types.htm) for details. The Pioneer Education Center's **computer lab** is available Monday through Thursday from 1-9 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. **FAST classes** will be held Feb. 1-23 and March 7-28, and an **ASEP: Effective Military Writing II class** will be held Feb. 7-11. Call mil 322-9600 for details.

### Tsunami disaster donations sought

Contributions for tsunami disaster survivors may be mailed by check

or money order to the American Red Cross International Response Fund, POB 37243, Washington, D.C., 20013. Make donations payable to ARC Disaster Relief Fund 2695 Tsunami/Earthquake. Donations may also be made online at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). Call mil 322-1760/8205 or civ (06181) 88-1760/8205 for details.

### EFMP update

The Autism Spectrum Support Group will meet Jan. 20 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the Wolfgang Outreach Center. The **EFMP Education and Support Network** meets Jan. 24 from 5-6 p.m. Call mil 322-9275 or civ (06181) 88-9275 for information.

### Play group meets Wednesdays

An interactive play group that helps children improve social, cognitive and motor skills meets Wednesdays from 10-11 a.m. at the Kids Korner on Wolfgang Kaserne.

### New USO location

The Hanau USO has moved to Building 19 on Pioneer Kaserne. The USO is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. An Open House will be held Feb. 4 from noon to 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Shuttle service to the outlet

mall in Wertheim will be available every other Wednesday beginning Feb. 9. The van departs at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$30 per person. Call mil 322-8725 or civ (06181) 88-8725.

### Arts and crafts

The American Sampler Craft Shop on Wolfgang Shopping Center offers a **Quilter's Orientation** class Feb. 2, a **Playmates Quilt** class Feb. 9 and 16, a **Beginning Basket Weaving** class Feb. 6, 13 and 27 and a **Wood Safety Orientation** Feb. 16 and 20. Call mil 322-8082 or civ (06181) 88-8082 for details and information on other classes.

### AFTB update

Army Family Team Building offers Level II training Feb. 1-3 and Level III training March 7-9. Level II Soldier Track training will be held Feb. 14-18 and Level III Soldier Track training March 14-18. Call mil 322-5308 or civ (06181) 88-5308 for more information.

### Super Bowl parties

Watch the Super Bowl on a colossal screen at **Club i on Fliegerhorst Kaserne** Feb. 6 starting at 10 p.m. Free snacks will be served and a breakfast buffet will be available for purchase. The Five Pfennig Playhouse on Old Argonner

Kaserne features a colossal screen, a midnight buffet and breakfast at the Sunrise Grill. Call mil 322-8031 or civ (06181) 88-8031 for details.

### 'Allocating Annie' on stage

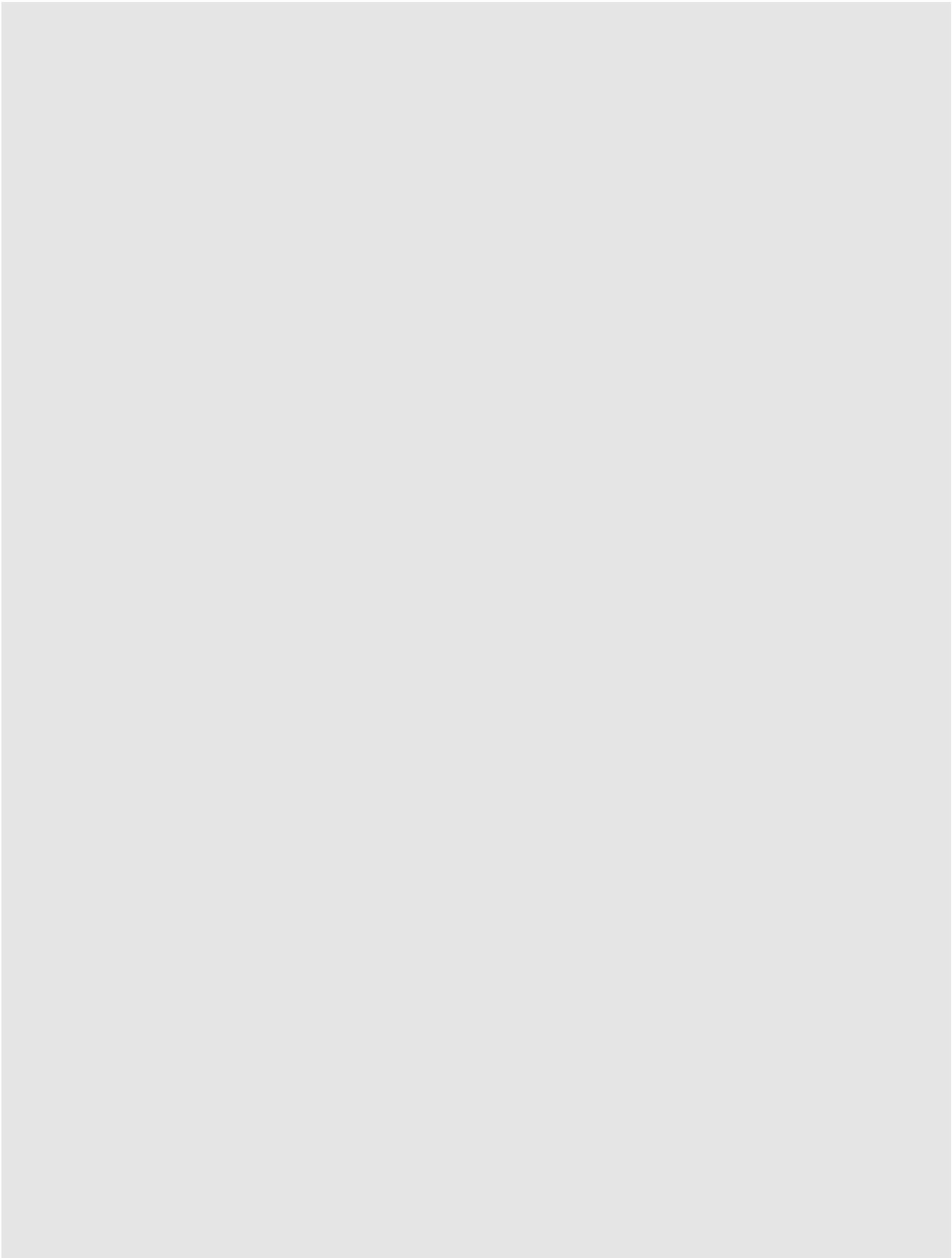
The Five Pfennig Playhouse presents the comedy "Allocating Annie" Feb. 18-19, 24-26 and March 3-5 at 7:30 p.m. Call mil 322-8031 or civ (06181) 88-8031 for tickets.

### Head for the slopes

Hanau Outdoor Recreation travels to **Hintertux, Austria**, Feb. 4-6, **Oberammergau and Garmisch** Feb. 18-21, and to the **Black Forest** Feb. 22-23 for skiing and snowboarding. Call mil 322-6015, civ (06183) 51-6015 or stop by Building 1355 on Fliegerhorst Kaserne Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. for information.

### Job Fair Feb. 2

The 414th Base Support Battalion will host a Job Fair Feb. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Community Activity Center on Fliegerhorst Kaserne. Meet potential employers and compete applications — you might leave with a job offer. Call Hanau Army Community Service at civ (06181) 88-9191 or stop by Building 9 on Pioneer Kaserne for details.





## BSB surveys possible archaeological sites

### Serves as steward of historical landmarks

By David Ruderman

104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Everyone knows Europe is full of cultural treasures, but Hanau Soldiers and civilians who work on Yorkhof, Hutier and Pioneer Kasernes may soon learn that the building they report to each day has been added to the historical register.

A better understanding of those buildings' status will emerge following the completion of an Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan undertaken by the 414th Base Support Battalion, said Directorate of Public Works officials.

"We have already prepared a Cultural Resources Management Plan for the BSB," said Silke Bernauer, an environmental engineer with the DPW's Environmental Management Office. "This is now a more comprehensive update they are doing. We told them to focus on some of the caserns where we know we have historical items, the historical buildings on Hutier Kaserne and also Yorkhof, mainly because of the age, because it comes from the early 20th century. They have some special handrails or floor tiles that are unique to that style of building that haven't been altered, so they're important and contribute to the big picture. It's not just one building; it's the overall complex."

The process began in September with meetings and briefings, which were followed by field work in October. The Wolf Blumenthal Ingenierbüro of Nürnberg undertook the survey in association with the Freies Institut Für Angewandte Kulturwissenschaften on behalf of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District, said officials.

"In all these places we have settlement from 6,000 B.C. to today," said archaeologist Stephan Kaltwasser, who conducted the survey of Army installations for Wolf Blumenthal. The Rhein-Main region and nearby Taunus Mountains have been sufficiently fertile and protected to have been widely populated by human beings since prehistoric times, and it often takes a trained eye to recognize their traces, he said.

"When monuments are found, many of them are not of interest to the public because they are not gold or diamonds — it's bones or ceramics or houses. So we learn very much about settlement on the River Main." New Argonner and Fliegerhorst Kasernes in Hanau, Bad Nauheim and Büdingen are sites with significant human occupation remains, he said.

### Searching for traces of the past

"Sometimes ceramic shards are the only hint. It is known often from people who are in and around the BSBs and recognize what they see. It is the first time anybody is asking for this since the 1930s and 1940s, so sometimes they say — oh, we have a lot of graves around here — and it's sure they are not only on the borders of the BSBs. In Hutier we know there's nothing [no subsurface relics]. In the other living areas, we have no information, but that's no guarantee there's nothing. In the Main culture zone it's always possible we'll find something," said Kaltwasser.

"Many of the places which are American installations were in former times German installations. For many years it was forbidden for us [to enter them], so it's two generations we have no information. But on the periphery we have much new information," he said.

Preservationists such as Kaltwasser must also wrestle with the tangle of competing interests that drive local land use decisions. "The federal system is especially a problem in this land of cultural monuments because they belong to the states [Länder], not the federal government. So every county has its own office of cultural affairs."

In the state of Hessen preservation authority lies with the Landesdenkmalamt in Wiesbaden, which oversees scientific investigation; however, local authorities have the power to grant or withhold building permits, and therein lies the potential for competing interests, he said.



Photo by David Ruderman

Archaeologist Stephan Kaltwasser examines the stairwell railing of an early 20th-century building on Yorkhof Kaserne.

This applies as well to the buildings and grounds of Hutier Kaserne, presently home to the 3rd Corps Support Command's 16th Corps Support Group and related units, and Yorkhof Kaserne, headquarters of the 104th Area Support Group. "Much more interesting are the buildings because of their construction at the beginning of the 20th century," said Kaltwasser. "These buildings here, especially six on Yorkhof, they have not much differences of their origins, not only the buildings, but the grounds between the buildings."

Hanau was historically a military center, home to mounted units known as Ulans in the time of the Kaisers. Hutier Kaserne, which was built between 1908 and 1912, was used for the training of Ulanen until the mid-1940s. Preserving their historical heritage while allowing for development is the ideal outcome, said Kaltwasser.

"At the moment it's a matter of costs. If you want to know, you have to dig, and that's expensive," he said, noting that American military authorities are involved in protecting the archaeological record on Army installations. "I think the Americans are obliged in history too. They really like to take care of these monuments because I think it's a cultural nation. When it's necessary from a military perspective, you can build anywhere; it doesn't have to be on a historical site. There's an historical bond to the place," he said. "We can only say if the Americans have activities for construction or putting in water lines — they have to be aware."

In addition to sites in Hanau, Army installations are home to a range of historically significant sites. "In Wiesbaden on the airfield there's a small monument to an American pilot — it's a memorial for the Americans, but it's a monument for the Germans too — they are obliged to preserve it," he said.

Kaltwasser's survey will be completed in February and will constitute a tangible result of the Final Governing Standards-Germany and Army Regulation 2004, said officials.

"Based on the report we'll have to look at the possibility of some programs we need to initiate," said Bernauer. "If we find protected resources we're obliged to protect them. Also for ongoing operations, we would have to cooperate with the authorities to a greater extent than before."

"We obviously adhere to Federal Republic regulations on that and coordinate with the Federal Assets Office in Frankfurt as our prime liaison on real estate issues," said

Petra Stadtmueller, master planner with the 414th BSB DPW. "We would go through our contact at the Federal Assets Office asking for permission, and they would put us in touch with the Denkmalshutz."

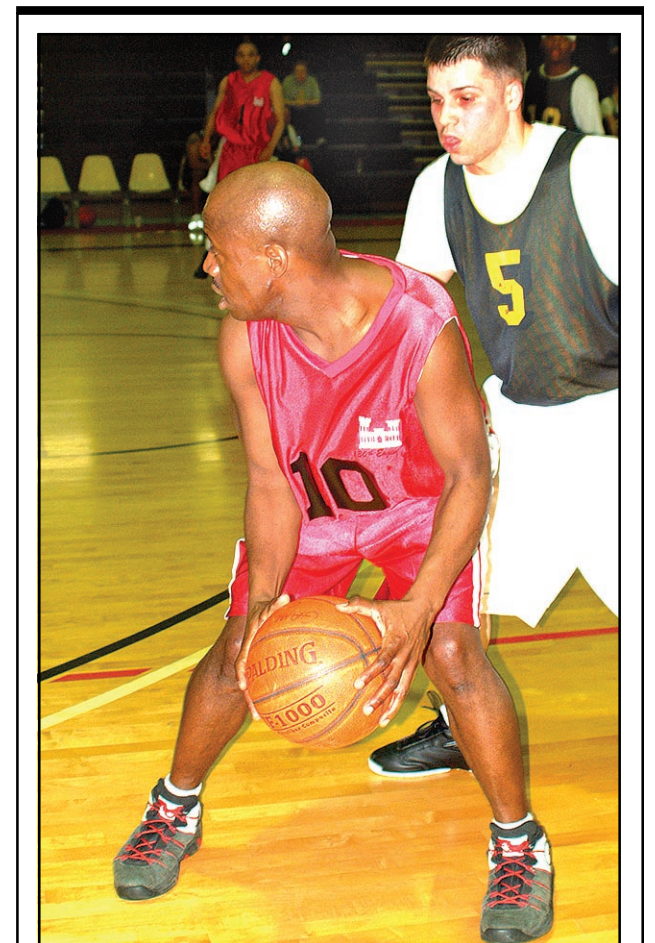


Photo by Dennis Johnson

### Looking for daylight

Ronald Washington looks for an opening to pass the ball to a 130th Engineer Brigade teammate during unit-level basketball play Jan. 6. The engineers lost 72-43 to a team from 3-58th Aviation Regiment.



## Observers expand force protection efforts

### SNAP volunteers help strengthen community bonds

By Karl Weisel

104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Law enforcement and force protection officers count on the “eyes and ears of the community” to help them prevent crime and acts of terrorism.

Volunteers in the Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program serve to strengthen the bonds among community members by encouraging residents to get to know one another better, improve their reporting skills and increase situational awareness, according to Christopher Thompkins, force protection officer for the 414th Base Support Battalion.

“We have so many different, small installations throughout the community. Some are fenced in; some are not,” he said. “The MPs can’t be everywhere all the time, and it helps to get community members more involved in reporting suspicious activity.

### Eyes and ears

“SNAP is a big part of force protection,” Thompkins said. “SNAP volunteers serve as the eyes and ears in the community. With SNAP, crime decreases because we can catch more predators.

“Those who are involved have a sense of ownership by the virtue of knowing that they can get an immediate response when reporting,” said Thompkins. “That’s one of the prominent features of force protection.”

“The Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program mirrors traditional Neighborhood Watch pro-



Photo by Karl Weisel

Demetreia Watson, Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program coordinator, discusses crime statistics at the Hanau Military Police Station with Staff Sgt. Pat Tyler (center), Installation Access Control System noncommissioned officer, and Staff Sgt. Jeff Barnes, desk sergeant.

grams in the United States,” said Demetreia Watson, 414th BSB SNAP coordinator.

Soldiers, civilians and family members who volunteer to serve as SNAP observers receive community observer training, undergo a background check and take part in periodic meetings with fellow SNAP observers and local officials to examine the latest crime statistics and to become more aware about potential crime and force protection concerns. “Once they start to recognize suspicious people, objects or behavior, they become more alert

and better able to report it to the Military Police,” Watson said.

“We’re all involved in this together,” said Mary Newkirk, a SNAP volunteer and education counselor at Hanau’s Pioneer Education Center, “so getting involved is important. This helps make people more aware of what’s going on in the community. Like they say, it takes a village.”

Newkirk, who lives in off-post housing, said as a member of the parent advisory group at the Teen Center and someone who spends the majority of her time in the local

military community she felt the need to get more involved. “I believe the program is needed. Many people are not aware of SNAP.”

“The MPs are very supportive of this program,” said Watson, adding that by getting involved SNAP volunteers enhance the relationship between local law enforcers and community members. “SNAP observers are more familiar with the communities where they live, they get a chance to meet new people and they strengthen community bonds. The MPs also have name recognition

when a SNAP observer calls.

“My main concern right now in the housing areas is abandoned vehicles,” said Watson. With many people getting ready to PCS (make a Permanent Change of Station move) or ETS (leave the service), some may be tempted to simply take the tags off and leave the vehicle behind. Not only is this illegal, people can be charged for towing and disposal costs after they have departed the area, Watson said. Community residents and SNAP observers can greatly help authorities in identifying vehicles which may appear to have been abandoned in housing areas and on installations.

### Identify and report

Other areas where everyone can play a role in making communities safer and better places in which to live include identifying and reporting graffiti, broken lights, suspicious individuals, unsafe playground equipment and unruly or neglected children. When reporting suspicious activity be sure to include as many particulars as possible such as what happened, where it occurred, when and who was involved. Describing the color, make, model, license and other features if a vehicle is involved or the sex, age, height, race, hair color and distinctive characteristics if an individual are also helpful.

Force protection officials reminded community members and SNAP observers that they should never put themselves at risk by confronting suspicious individuals, but rather to report the incident immediately to their local MPs at mil 114 or German police at civ 110.

For more information about SNAP or to get involved in the program call Demetreia Watson at mil 323-2855.

## Sun rises on Christmas Eve for single Soldiers

By Anemone Rueger

104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Christmas Eve turned out to be a family affair for a group of single Soldiers in Hanau. Winston Guess, manager of the Sunrise Grill on Old Argonner Kaserne, had them all over to spend the holiday together rather than being alone so far from home.

“I must say, it was my wife’s idea,” said Guess. Working with 414th Base Support Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Carlton Handy, Guess invited 25 single Soldiers and five Military Policemen, who frequently enjoy his cuisine on the weekends, for a big Christmas Eve meal at the Sunrise Grill.

“We decided the community has been good to us and we know how strange it can be to be alone for Christmas. We wanted to give something back to the community, and since we are in the cooking business already we invited the Soldiers over,” said Guess.

Guess runs the eatery together with his German wife

Brigitte, son-in-law Martin Dosler and daughter Andrea Cohan. “It’s a family business,” he said.

Before taking on the management of the Sunrise Grill a year ago, the former sergeant first class ran Wiesbaden’s Rheinblick Golf Course restaurant.

“I love it, every minute of it,” Guess said. “It gives me an opportunity to stay in touch with the military side of the family. I’m a people person. It’s a lot of work, but a lot of fun too.”

Under the attentive eyes of three generations of the Guess family, the Christmas Eve guests enjoyed the culinary treats that go with the season — turkey breast, candied ham, sweet and mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, candy, soda, eggnog and the 40 pounds of cookies Brigitte and Andrea baked.

The Sunrise Grill is open on weekdays from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on weekends from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and serves breakfast and lunch.



Photo by Marie J. DeLopez

Single Soldiers enjoy a free holiday meal at the Sunrise Grill, courtesy of the manager, Winston Guess.